

The first hearing in the Google Action at the District Court of Amsterdam

October 22, 2024

On October 22, 2024, the first hearing in the Action against Google took place. The hearing dealt with Google's preliminary defences. According to Google, the Foundation would not meet the requirements to bring a collective action.

The Foundation's attorneys explained to the court that this procedure is important for consumers in the Netherlands. It ensures that the main issues surrounding Google's unlawful business practices are addressed in one procedure, and that the damages suffered by all Google users in the Netherlands can be assessed within the same procedure. They also explained that the Foundation meets all formal requirements and puts the interests of Dutch Google users first.

It is frustrating for the Foundation and Consumentenbond that, in this first phase, the focus is primarily on questions about whether the Foundation is properly structured, while Google recently announced that it will not stop using illegally placed cookies on websites after all.

The court will rule on January 15, 2025 .